

BOROUGH OF MORECAMBE & HEYSHAM



REPORT

of

The Medical Officer of Health

for the year ending

31st December, 1947

Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
Morecambe and Heysham.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Morecambe and Heysham.

Mr. Mayor, Madam and Gentlemen,

I beg to present to you my Annual Report on the public health services of the borough during 1947.

The form of the report and the matters dealt with are in accordance with the wishes of the Ministry of Health.

The report for 1947 is that of a healthy community. The main matter of concern in the field of notifiable disease was the occurrence of 7 cases of poliomyelitis. We were fortunate in that our cases of this distressing malady were so few in a year which saw a nation-wide outbreak.

The work of 1947 in assisting those concerned in the preparation of food to recover, and indeed improve upon, the standards of hygiene known before the war was continued and extended. The community feeding on a large scale, with peak hours of intense pressure on staffs, which is a feature of a seaside resort, provides conditions of great potential danger, very favourable to the spread of food borne epidemics, and this is constantly in the minds of the staff of the health department. The necessity for licences and permits, and the scarcity of materials and equipment, were constant troubles; but I am glad to be able to report again, that the co-operation of the manufacturers and traders concerned, and their appreciation of their own responsibilities to the public, were a very great help. We are gratified that almost all those engaged in the food trades with whom your Sanitary Inspectors have had dealings in 1947 welcomed advice and assistance and worked amicably with us.

Personal hygiene among the staffs of food premises is as important as the cleanliness of the premises themselves and their equipment, and in this matter we think that advice by the Inspectors during their visits is more effective than impersonal propaganda.

On measures to provide the borough with an adequate sewage disposal scheme it can be said that all that it is possible to do in present circumstances has been done. That such a fundamental service for civilised living should be so exceedingly difficult to obtain is deplorable, but the fact is that we must be thankful that members of the Sewage Disposal Committee were able to prevent the Ministry of Health from stopping the work altogether.

At the end of my report I give some information on the School Medical Services. The children were well nourished and healthy and the incidence of contagious skin affections,

such as scabies and impetigo, was low; there was a considerable outbreak of measles, but no child during the year suffered from diphtheria.

I am glad to express my appreciation of the support given to the work of the Health Department by the members of the Health Committee and of the Council, and my gratitude to the staff of the department and my fellow officials for their ready assistance at all times.

In particular I would thank Mr. Savage for information on the water supply, Mr. Kilvington for a report on the sewage disposal scheme and Mr. Morgans for his comments and figures concerning the work of the Cleansing Department.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Mayor, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. F. LYLE,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE BOROUGH

Area in acres (not including foreshore)	3,665
Population at 1931 Census	24,542
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population mid-year, 1947	36,960
Number of inhabited houses Census, 1931	5,749
Number of inhabited houses, 1947 (according to rate books)	10,863
Rateable value	£296,927
Sum represented by a penny rate	£1,223

The greater part of the population of the borough is divided between those who have sought a healthy and pleasant town in which to live after their retirement from active business or professional life and those whose occupation it is to provide the attractions of a flourishing sea-side resort.

Nothing occurred during 1947 to alter the character of the borough as a holiday centre. Such industries as we have are, for the most part, inoffensive and located on the outskirts of the town. One exception to this desirable condition, and one which is causing the Council some anxiety, is the Trimpell factory just outside the borough boundary and the associated oil pipe-line from Heysham harbour. This factory, established primarily to meet the demands of war, provides much employment in the district—regular employment under good conditions—and that is a benefit that seaside towns often lack. Unfortunately, however, it also provides offensive odours from time to time which are extremely objectionable both to residents and holiday makers. This defect is a matter of serious

import for the future of a holiday resort, and it is to be hoped that some method can be very shortly found of abolishing the nuisance.

Although we still await the release by government departments of some of our best hotels, requisitioned during the war, the 1947 holiday season was a good one and demonstrated again the great popularity of Morecambe and its famous bay.

VITAL STATISTICS

Births

Live Births—	Male	Female
Legitimate	254 ...	243
Illegitimate	16 ...	19
Total	270 ...	262
Still Births—	Male	Female
Legitimate	3 ...	2
Illegitimate	— ...	1
Total	3 ...	3

Deaths

Total Male Deaths	317
Total Female Deaths	346
Total (Male and Female)	663
Infant Deaths (under one year of age)	Male Female
Legitimate	8 ... 17
Illegitimate	— ... 4
Total	8 ... 21

Puerperal Deaths

Puerperal and Post-Abortive Sepsis	—
Other maternal causes	2
Total Maternal Mortality	2

Deaths from Cancer

Cancer of	Male	Female
Buccal Cavity, Oesophagus, Uterus	7 ...	3
Stomach and Duodenum	6 ...	9
Breast	— ...	13
All Other Sites	24 ...	23
Total	37 ...	48

Deaths from Infective Diseases

Influenza	4 ...	—
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	15 ...	6
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	1 ...	4

Deaths from Diarrhoea of Children under Two Years of Age.	Male	Female
	— ...	2

TABLE OF BIRTH AND DEATH RATES.

	Per 1,000 of estimated population				Maternal Mortality Rate		Rate of Deaths under one year per 1,000 Live Births
	Live Birthrate	Crude Deathrate	Deathrate from Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	Deathrate from Cancer	Per 1,000 Live Births	Per 1,000 Total (live & still) Births	
Estimated Population : 36,960							
Mean of 5 yrs. 1942-1946	12.7	15.2	0.37	2.23	3.43	3.36	42
Year :—							
1946	13.9	15.2	0.26	2.09	—	—	48
1947	14.3	17.9	0.56	2.29	3.75	3.71	54
Increase or Decrease in 1947—							
On 5 years average 1942 - 1946	+1.6	+2.7	+0.19	+0.06	+0.32	+0.35	+12
On previous year...	+0.4	+2.7	+0.30	+0.20	+3.75	+3.71	+6

The Still Birthrate for 1947 was 11 per 1,000 total (live and still) births.

The Deathrate of legitimate infants under one year of age was 50 per 1,000 legitimate live births, while the rate for illegitimate infants was 114 per 1,000 illegitimate live births, giving a deathrate of 54 for all infants per 1,000 live births.

Table of Deaths from All Causes

		Male	Female	Total
1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	—	...	—
2.	Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	...	—
3.	Scarlet Fever	—	...	—
4.	Whooping Cough	—	...	—
5.	Diphtheria	—	...	—
6.	Tuberculosis of Respir. System	15	...	21
7.	Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	1	...	5
8.	Syphilitic Diseases	—	...	—
9.	Influenza	4	...	4
10.	Measles	—	...	—
11.	Acute Poliomyelitis and Polio- encephalitis	—	...	—
12.	Acute Infectious Encephalitis ...	—	...	—
13.	Cancer of Buc. Cav. and Oesoph. and Uterus	7	...	10
14.	Cancer of Stomach & Duodenum	6	...	15
15.	Cancer of Breast	—	...	13
16.	Cancer of all Other Sites	24	...	47
17.	Diabetes	3	...	10
18.	Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions ...	36	...	83
19.	Heart Diseases	121	...	237
20.	Other Diseases of the Circulatory System	16	...	22
21.	Bronchitis	26	...	49
22.	Pneumonia	5	...	14
23.	Other Respiratory Diseases	3	...	8
24.	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	3	...	5
25.	Diarrhoea under 2 years	—	...	2
26.	Appendicitis	2	...	3
27.	Other Digestive Diseases	3	...	14
28.	Nephritis	7	...	17
29.	Puerperal & Post Abortion Sepsis	—	...	—
30.	Other Maternal Causes	—	...	2
31.	Premature Birth	2	...	11
32.	Congenital Malformations, Birth Injury, Infantile Diseases	4	...	11
33.	Suicide	2	...	7
34.	Road Traffic Accidents	2	...	2
35.	Other Violent Causes	2	...	6
36.	All Other Causes	23	...	45

MAIN CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1947 COMPARED

HEART AND CIRCULATORY DISEASES
CANCER
INTRA-CRANIAL VASCULAR LESIONS
RESPIRATORY DISEASES (excluding tuberculosis)
TUBERCULOSIS—ALL FORMS
DIGESTIVE DISEASES
PREMATURE BIRTH—INFANTILE DISEASES—CONGENITAL DEFECTS
VIOLENCE
NEPHRITIS
INFECTIVE DISEASES
ALL OTHER CAUSES

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Laboratory and Hospital Facilities

For the greater part of the year laboratory investigations were carried out, as hitherto, at the County Laboratory in Preston, the Pathology Department of the Preston Royal Infirmary and the Joint Isolation Hospital, Slyne Road.

In the last quarter of 1947, however, the engagement at the Royal Lancaster Infirmary of a full time Pathologist and laboratory staff, and the provision of suitable laboratory accommodation and equipment, gave us the opportunity of enjoying a much more convenient bacteriological and pathological service. The Council decided to take advantage of this opportunity, and most of our laboratory work, apart from that of the Public Analyst, is now carried out by Dr. Rickards and his staff. In addition to the advantage of having the Pathologist close at hand for consultation (and I should like to thank Dr. Rickards for his helpfulness) the reduction of the time between the taking of samples and their delivery to the laboratory enhances the value of bacteriological analysis.

Ambulance Services

There was no change in the provision of ambulance services since my last report.

The accident ambulance service, belonging to the local authority, was prompt and efficient at all times. 207 cases were dealt with during the year: of these, 185 persons were removed in the ambulance and 22 dead were taken in the mortuary vehicle.

As hitherto, the sickness ambulance service was satisfactorily conducted by the St. John Ambulance Brigade with the assistance of a grant of £250 from the Corporation. This service removed 792 cases during 1947, their vehicles covering 12,500 miles.

It is satisfactory to report that the County Council appreciated the reasons given in my last annual report for maintaining, in a coastal town, a mortuary vehicle as well as ambulances, and that they propose to continue this practice when, as the Local Health Authority, they take over all ambulance services in 1948.

Treatment Centres and Clinics

With the coming into force of the Education Act, 1944, the County Council became responsible for all the publicly administered clinics serving the borough. These comprise the

Maternity and Child Welfare, Ante-natal and School Clinics which are held within the borough, and the Tuberculosis and Venereal Diseases Clinics, which are held in Lancaster.

Nursing Homes

There were 2 registered nursing homes. There were no important causes of complaint in either of these.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

There were no changes during the year in the source of supply. The purity of the water, checked by 39 chemical and 14 bacteriological analyses, was satisfactory. Chlorination was not required.

The following figures of consumption show an increase over 1946 for both Morecambe and Heysham:—

Morecambe, 1947	...	...	...	385,362,000	gallons.
1946	...	...	...	355,595,000	„
Increase	...	...	...	29,767,000	„
Heysham, 1947	...	...	...	154,387,000	„
1946	...	...	...	148,275,000	„
Increase	...	...	...	6,112,000	„
Average daily consumption—Morecambe...					1,055,000 gallons
Heysham					423,000 „
Total					1,478,000 „

All dwelling houses are supplied direct from public mains.

The quality of the water is excellent, but in one part of the borough, Higher Heysham, the quantity is at times inadequate. The inadequacy is due to insufficient storage capacity and inadequate pressure. It is hoped that in 1948 this defect may be remedied by increasing the capacity of the high level surface reservoir and providing additional mains.

Drainage and Sewerage

Closet Accommodation:—

No. of houses on water carriage system	...	10,863
„ „ fresh water closets	...	12,000 approx.
„ „ waste water closets	...	34 „
„ „ middens	...	5
„ „ closets attached to middens	...	5
„ „ dry ashpits (excluding middens)	...	2
„ „ movable ashbins	...	11,600

The following notes on the work done during 1947 and on the prospects of the main sewerage scheme at the end of the year have been supplied by Mr. Kilvington to whom my thanks are due.

CLEANSING OF DYKES

Much attention has again been paid to the main dykes within the borough, the fine weather and dry conditions being admirably suitable for their proper cleaning and grading. The main and many of the subsidiary dykes in the neighbourhood of the White Lund area received special attention this year, resulting in a marked improvement in drainage conditions generally, this being the reception area for a considerable portion of the town's surface water before it enters the Main Oxcliffe Dyke and the River Lune.

Offending subsidiary dykes in close proximity to dwelling houses were dealt with when reported. The regrading and, finally, the culverting of the Main Dyke lying between Brantwood Avenue and Sulby Grove has been completed this year, much to the satisfaction of the residents in this area. This dyke had previously been a constant source of complaint for many years, particularly from mosquito infection.

A number of dykes were again sprayed with Malarial to destroy the breeding grounds of mosquitoes, and all the work on the dykes in the past two years has certainly diminished considerably the annoyance caused by these insects.

It is still necessary to remind the public of their duty in maintaining the cleanliness of the dykes, particularly with regard to the disposal of garden refuse.

NEW SEWERAGE SCHEME

A start was made in July on the continuation of the works comprising the New Pumping Station at Schola Green Lane. Many subsidiary works had to be carried out in order to maintain the existing sewerage facilities. These have all now been completed and excavation is proceeding in one of the main pump wells. Materials are coming to hand better than might be expected, though there are long delays in deliveries in some materials, particularly cast iron pipes and specials.

Negotiations are proceeding between the prospective contractors, the Ministry of Health and the Corporation regarding the methods for constructing the remainder of the 60 ins. dia. sea outfall sewer, without which the New Pumping Station outlined above cannot give the necessary relief which the Corporation so anxiously desire.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS DURING 1947

Number of:—

Houses disinfected	154
Articles disinfected	1212
Number of vehicles disinfected	24
„ „ schools disinfected	1
Rooms fumigated	268
Number of times steam disinfecter used	190
„ „ miscellaneous visits	258
Visits to stables and piggeries	23

Complaints and Nuisances:—

Number of complaints received	568
„ „ nuisances discovered	496
„ „ nuisances abated	440
„ „ informal notices served (S.93)	139
„ „ formal notices served (S.93)	23
„ „ informal notices served (S.89)	2
„ „ formal notices served (S.89)	1
„ „ nuisances referred to other departments	8
Legal proceedings taken	—

Summary of Nuisances dealt with:—

Dampness	51
Doors—Defective and Rotten	6
Down Spouts and Eaves Gutters Defective	21
Drains Choked	112
Dykes Choked	6
Firegrate Defective	5
Fireplace Flue Defective	1
Floors Defective	10
General Defects (Sash Cords, etc.)	40
Gullies Choked	12
Manhole Cover Broken	1
Miscellaneous	5
Plaster Perished	12
Pointing Defective	5
Refuse Accumulation	4
Roofs Leaking	21
Sink Insanitary	6
Smell Offensive	16
Soilpipe Defective	12
Soilpipe Leaking Joints	3
Waste Pipes Defective	4
Waste Water Closet Defective	1
Water Closets Defective	33
Water Closet Cisterns Broken	1
Water Pipes Burst	4
Water Supply Insufficient	7
Water Percolations	13
Window Frames Defective	28

PERMITS ISSUED TO OBTAIN MATERIALS (REPAIRS, ETC.)

Number of Visits	241
Number of Permits Issued	221
Eaves Gutters	76
Glass	71
Lavatory Basins	17
Lead Pipe	2
Lead Flashing	2
Rain Water Pipe	3
Soil Pipes	10
W.C. Pedestals	27
Window Sills	3
Wood (Floors)	10

The permits were issued in the form of notices under the Public Health Act, 1936, in order that contractors could obtain the release of controlled building materials for minor housing repairs. In November, the Ministry of Works, in order to assist local authorities, removed 7 items from the controlled list including 5 of those specified above namely, lavatory basins, lead pipe, flashing, W.C. pedestals and glass.

Supply of Dust Bins.

34 informal notices served requiring the provision of 40 dust bins.

Number of formal notices served	3
Legal proceedings	—

Camping Sites.

There are four camping sites in the borough licensed by the local authority under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, and all four were in use.

The inadequacy of legislation intended to control camping has been referred to in my reports of earlier years.

The four licensed camps were reasonably well conducted, but the Council, driven to it by the meagre powers of control available to them, maintain their refusal to licence any additional camping grounds.

Number of visits to inspect camps	62
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Swimming Baths

The municipally owned Super Swimming Stadium was the only one open during the year. It is a fine asset to the borough, not only as a holiday attraction, but also as a means of healthy recreation and education for the resident youth. The efficiency of the filtration and chlorination plants is assured by frequent chemical examinations of the water.

Disinfestation

Number of verminous houses inspected	110
„ „ „ „ re-inspected	64
„ „ „ „ disinfested	90

Offensive Trades

There are three premises in which offensive trades are conducted: in two of these the trade is tripe dressing and in the third it is gut scraping.

All were satisfactorily conducted.

Number of visits	23
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Tents, Vans and Sheds

21 inspections were made during the year. No legal action was necessary.

Rats and Mice Destruction

The work done in tracing and destroying rats and mice was carried on throughout the year and met with the approval of the Divisional Rodent Inspector of the Ministry of Food. The work on the dykes referred to on a previous page should make the control of these vermin easier.

During the year the rat-catcher carried out the following work:—

Number of premises visited	415
„ „ visits to above premises	1652
„ „ tins of poison issued	186
„ „ rats and mice killed	308
„ „ visits by inspectors	36
„ „ informal notices served	7

HOUSING

(1) General Observations.

As a great part of the housing property in the borough is of relatively modern construction the general standard of dwellings is good. The prevailing types are large boarding houses and semi-detached 3-4 bedroom houses.

In the older parts both of Morecambe and Heysham there are houses built very many years ago without adequate damp proofing and with structural defects due to age which are not now satisfactorily repairable: in these houses the commonest complaint is of dampness.

In addition to the relatively few families living in permanently unfit houses there are families living in caravans under circumstances that are far from desirable. From year to year this caravan life continues, and although there has been a slight reduction in the numbers during the past couple

of years the problem cannot really be tackled until suitable alternative accommodation, that is to say new Corporation houses, has been provided. As yet we have a long way to go before even the families living in rooms are provided for, and they come first.

(2) Housing Needs.

At the end of the year there were 2,232 applicants for new houses; of these 1,652 were living in rooms.

The need for a small number of four bedroom houses for large families, and of flats or two bedroom houses for the elderly and, for the couple with one child, should not be obscured by the dominant need for the standard three bedroom house.

(3) Progress of Local Authority Schemes

During the year 24 new houses were completed and occupied on the Hestham Hill site, and the completion of the 28 houses of that scheme could be expected in the first half of the following year.

Arrangements were made for the purchase by the Corporation of 44 houses built by private builders under Ministry of Health Circular 92/1946 and work was in hand for building 124 houses on a new site at Trumacar Lane.

There was also in contemplation the eventual building of another 86 houses on the Trumacar Lane site and an estate of 170 houses at Blackberry Hall.

Housing Acts

Number of houses inspected	4
Number of houses re-inspected	1

Public Health Act

Number of houses inspected	358
„ „ houses re-inspected	711
„ „ visits re drainage	458
„ „ re-visits	411
„ „ drains tested	131
„ „ informal notices served	15
„ „ formal notices served	26
„ „ drains examined under section 48	1

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply

Bacteriological Examinations

65 samples of milk were examined; 30 were ordinary farm milk and 35 designated. The results were as follows:—

Type	No.	B. Coli in 0.01 c.c.			Methylene Blue Reduc.			T.B. Bacilli			Phosphatase		
		Pres.	Ab.	p.c. Sat.	Sat.	Un- sat.	p.c. Sat.	Neg.	Pos.	p.c. Sat.	Suff. Heat Treatment	Insuff. Heat	p.c. Sat.
Farm	30	6	24	80	18	12	60	7	1	88			
Accredited	2		2	100	2		100						
Tuberculin Tested	7	3	4	57	3	4	43	1		100			
Pasteurised	24		18	100	24		100				23	1	96
Sterilised	2		2	100	2		100				1	1	50
	65	9	50	85	49	16	75	8	1	88	24	2	92

Registered Premises

Number of Retail Purveyors	95
„ „ Wholesale Traders	33
„ „ Dairies	55
„ „ Farms	14

Changes During Year:—

Retail Purveyors Transferred	8
Retail Purveyors Deleted	18
Wholesale Traders Transferred	1
Wholesale Traders Deleted	3
Dairies Deleted	2
New Dairies Registered	2
Farms Deleted	1

Designated Milks

County Council:

Producer's Licence—Accredited	1
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Licences Granted:

Pasteurisers	1
Dealers Bottling—Accredited	1
Dealers Bottling—Tuberculin Tested	1
Dealers—Tuberculin Tested	18
Supplementary—Tuberculin Tested	3
Supplementary—Pasteurised	2

Visits

Retail Purveyors	158
Dairies	84
Wholesale Traders	29
Farms	4
Designated Milk Dealers	55
Pasteurising Plant	14
Informal Notices Served	35

SHELLFISH

Bacteriological Examination

2 samples of oysters were examined and found clean. *B. coli* and organisms of the enteric, salmonella and *B. dysenteriae* could not be isolated.

ICE CREAM

During 1947 particular attention was paid to the premises, equipment and methods of manufacture and sale of ice cream in the borough.

The Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations of 1947 have gone some way towards providing powers under which Local Authorities can control the safety of this product; but they are very far from being perfect and, indeed, in some part may be justifiably indicted for attempting, by specious provisions which can never be enforced, to disguise their own ineffectiveness. Powers which could only be exercised if the controlling authority kept an inspector permanently on the premises of every manufacturer are of little interest to anybody and threaten nobody.

The Regulations have been useful, nevertheless, in laying down certain principles of manufacture. If these cannot actually be enforced, because the supervision necessary to do so could not be obtained, yet the majority of manufacturers in their own interests are anxious to avoid trouble and to induce public confidence in their product, and the officially approved standards of practice are a very helpful guide.

The only control that the Local Authority has is concerned with the bacteriological quality of the ice cream, with its cleanliness. This, of course, is the most important aspect of the matter, for the dissemination of disease is a more serious offence against society than the sale of a sweetmeat of low nutritive value. But it is, in fact, the low nutritive value of ice cream (and the price charged for it) that the public most often complain about.

That ice cream should have a high fat and total solids content is certainly desirable, but the following facts ought to be remembered.

The contents of today's ice cream are very largely determined, not by the manufacturer, but by the Ministry of Food. What the manufacturer puts into his ice cream is what the Ministry allows him to put in, what the Ministry gives him. All ice cream made today is, in comparison with that of pre-war days, a substitute product; and the Ministry of Food controls and determines the substitutes. It is true that even

with the substitutes provided a certain amount of "stretching" is possible, and the manufacturer of a very poor product is making more ice cream out of his materials than he ought to do: it is true, also, that small quantities of ice cream may now and again be raised above the average standard by use of materials that have, perhaps, strayed a little from the paths designed for them; but, notwithstanding these exceptions, it is true that the content of ice cream manufactured today is controlled by the Ministry of Food.

That the Ministry of Food do not allow the use of more, or better, materials for the making of ice cream is, perhaps, because they do not look on it as an important article of diet; and, of course, it never has been that in this country. Ice cream is rather of the nature of a sweetmeat, a small pleasure, and the use of severely rationed foods, such as butter, milk or eggs, in its manufacture would not meet with wide approval.

The price of ice cream is not, of course, within the control of the Local Authority, and presumably it is not sold for more than the public are willing to pay for it.

As the bacteriological analysis of ice cream in 1946 was not altogether the same kind of analysis as that used in 1947 a full comparison of results is not possible, but there is sufficient evidence in the results to enable one to state that the ice cream of 1947 was quite certainly cleaner and safer than it has hitherto been. The B. Coli estimations in 0.1 c.c. shew this improvement, and although the presence of B. Coli is not now accepted as undoubted evidence of pollution, yet a reduction from 72 per cent. of samples returning B. Coli in 0.1 c.c. to 44 per cent. is a proof of more satisfactory conditions.

In 1946 the Methylene Blue test was not available. One is still disinclined to accept the results of these latter tests at their face value. Not only has there frequently been a remarkably wide divergence between the Methylene Blue test results and those of bacteriological identification, but discrepant results could be obtained from two samples taken from the same mix at the same time and submitted for the Methylene Blue test to different laboratories.

The protection of the manufactured product by machine wrapping finds much favour, but both paper and machines are difficult to get. Furthermore, if all ice cream were to be wrapped, the disposal of the sticky wrapping papers, dropped in their thousands in streets and on beaches, would provide another problem.

The following figures shew the results of chemical and bacteriological analyses and details of registrations and inspections.

Bacteriological Examination

71 samples were examined (including 16 samples of mix) with the following results:—

Type	No.	B. Coli in 0.1 c.c.			Methylene Blue (Provisional Grade)				
		Pres.	Abs.	Satis	1	2	3	per cent. 4 Grade 1	
Ice Cream	55	24	31	56	14	3	12	26	25
Mix	16	1	15	94	8	4	2	2	50
Total	71	25	46	65	22	7	14	28	31

Chemical Examination

6 samples were analysed and the results varied from 0.8 per cent. fat and 21.5 per cent. total solids to 10.6 per cent. fat and 39.2 per cent. total solids. The latter was a sample from a local manufacturer. The average analysis was 4.6 per cent. fat and 27.3 per cent. total solids.

Registrations

Manufacture, Storage and Sale	2
Manufacture and Storage	4
Manufacture and Sale	10
Manufacture	2
Storage and Sale	3
Storage	4
Sale	39
Sale of Pre-Packed	21
	—
	85

Visits

Dealers' Premises	431
Manufacturers' Premises	167
Storage Premises	61
Hawkers	19
Cinemas	9
Miscellaneous	4
Inspected for Registration	61
Proposed Premises	7
Informal Notices and Letters	89
Informal Notices re Regulations, etc.	97
Total number of Tests carried out	159
Number unsatisfactory	28
Percentage unsatisfactory	17.61

FOOD INSPECTION

Number of visits to slaughter-houses	592
Number of visits to food shops	174

FOOD AND DRUGS SAMPLING

During the year 71 samples of food and drugs were purchased and analysed by the Borough Analyst.

Baking Powder	1
Bicarbonate of Soda	1
Borax	1
Coffee	1
Fat, compound	2
Foot paint	1
Gelatine	1
Ginger	1
Ice Cream	6
Iodine Paint	1
Margarine	1
Medicinal gargle	1
Milk	40
Milk of Magnesia	1
Oatmeal	1
Piccalilli	1
Pickle	1
Quinine	1
Sage and Onion	1
Sausage	2
Semolina	1
Tartar, cream of	1
Vinegar	3

2 samples of milk were deficient in solids-not-fat and contained extraneous water and 1 sample was deficient in milk-fat. On the advice of the analyst, the vendors were warned and repeat samples taken.

1 sample of vinegar was not labelled in accordance with the Order of 1946 and the contents of the medicinal gargle were not in accordance with the label on the bottle. Both sellers were notified and the omission rectified.

Legal proceedings—nil.

MEAT INSPECTION

Number of animals inspected at the slaughterhouse:—

Beasts	2,053
Calves	1,736
Pigs	8
Sheep	5,943
Total	<hr/> 9,740 <hr/>

Meat condemned:

Bovines

Tuberculosis:

Carcase and organs (generalised)	17
Carcase and organs (generalised and with emaciation)	10
Hindquarters	4
Forequarters	8
Heads and tongues	208
Lungs	322
Spleens	96
Skirts	78
Udders (lbs.)	587
Fat (lbs.)	485
Stomachs	73
Hearts	58

Other Diseases:

Carcase and organs (Moribund)	1
„ „ „ (Fever)	3
„ „ „ (Abscesses)	1
„ „ „ (Septic Pneumonia)	1
„ „ „ (Septicaemia)	1
Forequarters (Bruising)	1
Hindquarters (Bruising)	1
Livers (Cirrhosis)	1128
Part Livers (Cirrhosis)	642
Intestines (Oesophagostomum Columbianum) ...	120
Beef (Bruised) lbs.	118
Tongues (Abscesses)	7

Calves

Carcase and organs (Septic Pneumonia)	2
„ „ „ (Multiple Abscesses)	1
„ „ „ (Tuberculosis)	1
„ „ „ (Joint Ill)	1
„ „ „ (Inflammation)	1
„ „ „ (Immature)	1
„ „ „ (Emaciation)	2
Vell (Inflammation)	6
Livers (Abscesses)	3

Sheep

Carcase and Organs (Gangrenous Pneumonia)	1
„ „ „ (Acute Pleurisy)	1
„ „ „ (Peritonitis)	1
„ „ „ (Necrosis)	1
„ „ „ (Emaciation)	3
„ „ „ (Abscesses)	2
„ „ „ (Fever)	3

Forequarters (Abscesses)	2
Pluck (Flukes)	12
Livers (Flukes and Abscesses)	2007
Feet (Decomposition) sets of	31
Intestines (Oesophagostonum Col'ianum) sets of	117

Unsound Food (other than meat) surrendered

Fish

Mixed	3 boxes
Sole	7 stone
Cod	26 stone
Cod	8 boxes
Trout	20 lbs.
Haddock	11 stone
Hake	4 stone
Herrings	6 boxes
Fish	178 tins
Lobsters	2 boxes
Crabs	1 barrel
Whelks	1 bag
Shrimps	1 bag
Shrimps	18 quarts
Shrimps	252 pots
Shrimps	12 lbs.
Prawns	66 lbs.
Prawns	1 box

Meat

Meat	444 tins
Meat Minced	14 lbs
Meat Pies	225
Meat Sausage	25 lbs.
Sausages	15½ lbs.
Tripe	2 boxes
Ham	86 lbs.
Bacon	208 lbs. .

Poultry

Boxes	4
Poultry	100 lbs.

Fruit

Pears	12 boxes
Pears	255 lbs.
Apples	6 boxes
Plums	286 lbs.
Plums	170 cases
Prunes	30 lbs.
Bilberries	30 baskets
Cherries	478 lbs.
Apricots	14 lbs.

Raisins	30 lbs.
Dates	1 box
Fruit	99 tins
Jam	161 tins
Orange Juice (Confection's)	66 lbs.

Vegetables

Turnips	50 sacks
Potatoes	20 sacks
Chestnuts	8 lbs.
Peas	1 bag
Vegetables	331 tins
Beans	18 tins

Other Foods

Butter	95½ lbs.
Cheese	5 lbs.
Milk	375 tins
Barley	16 lbs.
Wheat Flakes	11 packets
Oats	48 packets
Semolina	4 packets
Pickles	5 jars
Sauce Powder	144 packets
Soup	17 tins
Syrup	1 tin
Crumpets	288
Bread	3 lbs.
Tart Fruit	1
Pudding	3 tins
Sweets	30 lbs.
Chocolate	48 ozs.
Custard Powder	2 packets
Jelly	1 packet

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

	Number of Visits
Bakehouses	258
Restaurant Kitchens	291
Food Preparation Premises	224
Fish Friers	136
Food Stores	88
Miscellaneous	12
	<hr/>
	1009
	<hr/>

38 informal notices and 27 verbal notices were served requiring attention to the following contraventions and defects:—

Structural defects	30
Drainage defects	24
Defective tables and benches	3
Defective floors	7
Want of cleanliness	9
Want of redecoration	37
Accommodation for refuse	5
Inadequate water closet accommodation	7
Inadequate washing facilities	6
Inadequate ventilation	6
Inadequate artificial light	6
Inadequate supply of hot water	13

Informal and Verbal Notices complied with

Bakehouses	18
Restaurant Kitchens	22
Food Preparation Premises	11
Fish Friers	12
Food Stores	3
	—
	66
	—

Premises Registered under Section 14(2) Food and Drugs Act, 1938

Fish Friers	28
Potted, Pressed, Pickled and Preserved Food Manufacturers	35
	—
	63
	—

Despite the difficulties encountered in obtaining licences and building materials, structural alterations and reconstruction under plans approved have been satisfactorily completed during the year at the following premises:—

Bakehouses	10
Restaurant Kitchens	4
Food Preparation Premises	5
Food Stores	2
	—
	21
	—

It is gratifying to note that the whole of this work has been achieved with the utmost co-operation of the traders concerned and has not necessitated the service of statutory notices.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Hospital treatment for infectious diseases, other than smallpox, is provided at the Slyne Road Hospital, Lancaster. The Hospital is controlled by a Joint Board on which the Morecambe and Heysham Council is represented.

By agreement with the Joint Board of the Fylde, Preston and Garstang Smallpox Hospital, cases of smallpox from Morecambe and Heysham would be removed to that hospital.

There was no case of diphtheria during the year, nor any cases of dysentery, enteric or paratyphoid fever.

There were 7 cases of poliomyelitis: the cases were scattered, no contact between them could be established nor any probable source of infection found.

The main feature amongst other notifiable diseases was a large rise in measles notifications.

There were 14 deaths from all forms of pneumonia but no other deaths from notifiable infectious diseases.

Number of visits of inquiry into notified cases	50
„ „ re-visits	29
„ „ visits re disinfection	107
„ „ premises disinfected	63
„ „ miscellaneous visits	7
„ „ visits to cholera contacts	14

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE (other than TUBERCULOSIS) NOTIFIED DURING 1947

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES	AGE PERIOD IN YEARS												Total cases	Cases moved to hospital	Total deaths
	Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 & over			
Scarlet Fever		1	1	5	7	18	4		1	1			38	31	
Diphtheria															
Enteric or Typhoid Fever															
Paratyphoid Fever															
Measles (excluding German Measles)	7	44	34	36	36	188	2	1	3				351	11	
Whooping cough	1	3	4	4	6	3							21	1	
Acute Pneumonia (Primary & Influenzal)					1				1	1	1	2	6		14
Puerperal Pyrexia															
Cerebro-spinal fever															
Acute Poliomyelitis					1	3	1	1	1				7	7	
Dysentery.															
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2												2	1	
Erysipelas.											3		3	2	
Malaria (contracted abroad)									1				1		
TOTALS	10	48	39	45	51	212	7	2	7	2	4	2	429	53	14

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The number of children immunised under the local authority's scheme is given in the table that follows. As has been previously pointed out these figures are no indication of the total number of children in the borough who have been immunised: many parents have their children immunised by their own private practitioner and of this number we have no accurate records.

As 5—6 years had elapsed since the local authority undertook diphtheria immunisation, special arrangements were made to inform parents of the necessity of maintaining the protection conferred and 259 reinforcing injections were given.

Children up to the age of 7 years are given A.P.T.; for children over that age T.A.F. is used.

I.—IMMUNISATION IN RELATION TO CHILD POPULATION.

Number of Children who had completed full course of Immunisation at any time up to 31 December, 1947.

Age at 31.12.47 ... i.e. Born in Year ...	Under 1 1947	1 1946	2 1945	3 1944	4 1943	5 to 9 1938-1942	10 to 14 1933-1937	Total under 15
Number Immunised	16	221	191	198	202	1341	1040	3209
Estimated mid-year population 1947	2200							5990

II.—DIPHTHERIA NOTIFICATIONS AND DEATHS IN RELATION TO IMMUNISATION.

NOTIFICATIONS			DEATHS		
Age at date of Notification	Number of Cases Notified	Number of cases included in preceding column in which the child had completed a full course of immunisation	Age at date of Death	Number of Deaths	Number of cases included in preceding column in which the child had completed a full course of immunisation
Under 1	—	—	Under 1	—	—
1	—	—	1	—	—
2	—	—	2	—	—
3	—	—	3	—	—
4	—	—	4	—	—
5 to 9	—	—	5 to 9	—	—
10 to 14	—	—	10 to 14	—	—
Totals	—	—	Totals	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality During 1947

AGE PERIODS		NEW CASES				DEATHS			
Years.		Respira- tory.		Non- Respira- tory.		Respira- tory.		Non- Respira- tory.	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5		—	—	1	1	—	—	1	1
5—10		—	—	2	2	—	—	—	1
10—15		—	1	1	2	—	—	—	1
15—20		3	1	1	2	1	1	—	1
20—25		1	2	2	1	—	2	—	—
25—35		6	3	—	—	3	1	—	—
35—45		2	3	—	—	3	2	—	—
45—55		6	—	1	—	3	—	1	—
55—65		4	—	1	—	5	1	1	—
65 and upwards		2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
		24	12	9	8	15	7	3	4
Totals		36		17		22		7	

NINE YEARS' TABLE OF NOTIFICATIONS AND DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS

Pulmonary Tuberculosis :

Year.	Cases Notified.		Deaths	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
1939	7	16	9	5
1940	17	15	6	4
1941	27	19	13	3
1942	20	7	12	3
1943	25	10	12	1
1944	24	15	10	6
1945	19	13	8	5
1946	26	16	6	4
1947	24	12	15	7
Totals	189	123	91	38

Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis :—

Year.	Cases Notified.		Deaths.	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
1939	7	3	1	—
1940	6	3	1	1
1941	6	4	1	—
1942	5	8	—	3
1943	4	6	3	2
1944	7	6	4	2
1945	7	6	1	2
1946	6	4	2	2
1947	9	8	3	4
Totals	57	48	16	16

The number of new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis notified was slightly below that of 1946, while that of non-pulmonary disease shewed some increase. The number of deaths from all forms increased by 15, 12 of the increase being in the pulmonary group.

VENEREAL DISEASES

Free treatment of patients suffering from venereal disease is given at a clinic administered by the County Council at the Public Assistance Institution, 2 Quernmore Road, Lancaster.

The figures in the following table were kindly supplied by Dr. A. Fessler from that clinic.

	Non-Venereal Conditions	Gonorrhœa	Syphilis	Totals
Males	36	14	11	61
Females	8	4	7	19
Totals	44	18	18	80

Information concerning the clinic and the hours of attendance is displayed in Public Conveniences.

PORT HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

The general administrative arrangements were unchanged and the usual work was satisfactorily carried out.

There were 2 vessels from foreign ports. Both were oil tankers and were boarded and inspected.

There were no cases of infectious disease landed from any vessel.

Number of visits to Heysham	31
„ „ beasts examined	31

1. Amount of Shipping Entering the Port during 1947.
TABLE A.

	Number	Tonnage	Number Inspected		Number reported to be defective	Number of vessels reported as having or having had, during the voyage infectious disease on board
			By the Medical Officer of Health	By the Sanitary Inspector		
FOREIGN :						
Steamers	1	520	—	1	—	—
*Motor	1	204	—	1	—	—
Sailing						
Fishing						
TOTAL—Foreign	2	724	—	2	—	—
COASTWISE :						
Steamers	413	498,233	—	—	—	—
*Motor	100	31,600	—	—	—	—
Sailing						
Fishing						
Total	513	529,833	—	—	—	—
TOTAL—Foreign and Coastwise	515	530,557	—	2	—	—

* Includes mechanically propelled vessels other than steamers.

2. Character of Trade of Port.

TABLE B.

(a) Passenger Traffic during 1947.

No. of Passengers	Saloon	3rd Class	Transmigrants
Inwards	80,552	104,290	—
Outwards	79,919	105,951	—

There is no passenger traffic with foreign ports.

(b) Cargo Traffic during 1947.

Principal Imports:

Live cattle, pigs, horses and donkeys from Northern Ireland, also bacon, eggs, potatoes, linen goods and machinery.

In 1947, 28,094 cattle, 6 pigs, 1,692 horses, 1 goat and 46 donkeys were landed. The foreign trade, compared with the previous year showed a marked decrease owing to the absence of oil tankers from Persia, during the period when the refinery was not operating.

Principal Exports:

Agricultural machinery and general merchandise.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF ALIENS.

Nil return—not a port approved for the landing of aliens.

3. Water Supply.

Water is obtained from the town supply for the port and for shipping. No water vessels are employed; vessels taking in water from stand-pipes alongside.

4. Port Health Regulations, 1933 and 1945.

1. Arrangements for dealing with Declaration of Health.
This is usually received by the Customs Officer and handed later to the Sanitary Authority.
2. Boarding of vessels on arrival.
By Customs Officer and by Sanitary Inspector.
3. Notification to the Authority of inward vessels requiring special attention.
Customs Officer notifies Medical Officer of Health and Health Department, by telephone.
4. Mooring stations designated under Article 10.
 - (a) Inner Mooring—for cases of smallpox and typhus (Easterly end of North Side).
 - (b) Outer Mooring—for cases of cholera, yellow fever and plague (at Lune Deeps).

5. Particulars of any standing exemptions from the provisions of Article 14.
All ordinary notifiable infectious diseases other than those specified under 4 above.
6. Experience of working of Article 16.
No experience.
7. Arrangements for:—
 - (a) Premises and waiting rooms for medical examination.
No special premises have been provided. There is no foreign passenger traffic. Members of the crew would be examined on board.
 - (b) Cleansing and disinfection of ships, persons, clothing and other articles.
A steam disinfector is provided for bedding and clothing. Appliances and materials are available for the disinfecting of ships and this would be carried out by the Health Department staff.
 - (c) Premises for the temporary accommodation of persons.
No special premises.
 - (d) Hospital accommodation.
An infectious diseases hospital provided by a Joint Board on which this Sanitary Authority is represented, is now available for all cases except smallpox.
For smallpox cases, the Sanitary Authority has an agreement with Lancaster Corporation for the reception of seaborne cases in their hospital. This agreement will continue until the Joint Board make suitable provision.
 - (e) Ambulance transport.
A special motor ambulance is available with attendants.
 - (f) Supervision of contacts.
Contacts requiring to be kept under surveillance would be kept on board or accommodated at hospital.
8. Arrangements for bacteriological or pathological examination of rats and other materials.
Submitted to pathologists ordinarily employed by the Public Health Authority. Usually the Pathologist attached to the Royal Infirmary, Lancaster.
10. Venereal diseases.
No special arrangements for sailors. Facilities arranged by the County Council are available.
11. Arrangements for interment of dead.
In cemeteries provided by the Sanitary Authorities.

TABLE C.

Cases of infectious sickness landed from vessels ... Nil

TABLE D.

Cases of infectious sickness occurring on vessels during
the voyage but disposed of prior to arrival ... Nil

5. Measures against rodents.

No special measures have been necessary, the port being remarkably free from rats. Practically all traffic was from Northern Ireland, and the cargo is only on board a few hours and is transported direct by rail. The Harbour Authority employ their own operator.

TABLES E and F.

Rats destroyed on vessels and in docks ... Nil

TABLES G and H.

Deratisation and exemption certificates issued ... Nil

6. Hygiene of crews spaces.

TABLE J.

Classification of nuisances

Number inspected during the year ... 2

Defects ... Nil

7. Food inspection.

Periodical visits are made for the purpose of the Imported Food Regulations. Visits are also made for the purpose of examining carcasses of animals slaughtered on board or after detention on landing. (See page 18).

In connection with the operation of the regulations my thanks are due to the inspectors of H.M. Customs for their courtesy and ready assistance at all times.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of			Occupiers prosecuted
		Inspections	Written notices		
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities...	53	31	3		nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	178	104	6		—
(iii) Other Premises under the Act (excluding out-workers' premises)	4	8	4		—
TOTAL	235	143	13		—

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4	3	—	—	3
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	1	1	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	3	—	—	—	3
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	3	—	—	4
(c) Not separate for sexes... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences (not including offences relating to Homework)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	11	7	—	—	10

No. of outworkers making wearing apparel 3

SHOPS ACTS

Shops Acts, 1912-36:

Number of visits to shops	544
„ „ shops inspected	28
„ „ revisits	14
„ „ informal notices	72

Shops Act, 1934:

Informal notices:

Unsat. and absence of sanitary conveniences ...	1
---	---

Exemption certificates:

Number granted for sanitary conveniences ...	1
Number in force for washing facilities ...	19
Number in force sanitary conveniences ...	71

Young Persons (Employment) Act, 1938:

Number of visits	3
Number of amusement arcades visited	2

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The Cleansing Superintendent has kindly supplied the following note on the work of his department during the year.

Labour supply conditions generally improved to some extent during the year owing largely to the partial closing down of a large works in the neighbourhood. Casual labour for seasonal work remained difficult.

The supply of new vehicles, especially those suitable for operating in narrow back streets remained a problem.

Refuse Collection and Disposal:

It had been expected that vehicles of improved type would have been available during the year. The three new ones purchased in 1946 were of pre-war type with minor modifications and a further second hand reconditioned one was purchased from the makers early in 1947. These were all urgently required to replace wornout units and we were not in a position to await possible improved types.

It is hoped that, in future, it will be possible to introduce vehicles equipped for dustless, or semi-dustless, loading such as are used in certain other countries.

Most of the successful patents are owned abroad but it is possible that some of these will be introduced into this country.

As in previous years the separate collections of fish waste and of waste paper from shops and offices was carried out. Apart from these and other items of salvage, refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping on land owned by this and the Lancaster Corporations.

Street Cleansing:

Carried out chiefly by orderlies working on the "beat" system. The staff is augmented and a mechanical sweeper collector is also used during the holiday season, a double shift being engaged at the busiest parts. The mechanical sweeper is over 15 years old and needs replacing.

Street washing by a mechanical washer fitted with power jets and squeegees was more extensively employed during the year.

The usual method of cleaning by sweeping, whether by hand or machine operated brushes, does not entirely cleanse a street and only washing will remove the dust lodging on the surface.

In my opinion the usual types of sweeper-collector machine, even when available, are not suitable for present day conditions. They usually embody a rotating brush some 7 ft. wide whereas the bulk of the litter usually lies in or near the gutter under modern traffic conditions. A brush of this size is expensive to maintain, takes considerable mechanism and power to drive and requires much adjusting to suit the varying camber of the roads.

The solution appears to be with a combination of hand sweeping the pavement, a self collecting machine sweeping the gutter, using a brush say 2 ft. 6 ins. wide, with power washing of the whole of the road surface and as much as possible of the pavement by a travelling washer as at present used.

Public Conveniences:

With the exception of those at the Swimming Stadium all public conveniences are under the control of this Department.

Receipts for 1947 were £4,717 as against £4,485 for 1946, and £2,386 in 1938.

(a) Salvage Sales:	T.	C.	Q.	lbs.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	281	3	—	—	1793	1	4
Textiles	16	4	2	—	253	7	7
Non-ferrous Metals	1	2	—	11	48	19	5
Black Scrap	7	8	3	—	16	19	0
Baled Scrap	6	16	—	—	12	4	10
Bottles and Jars		3	—	11	1	18	6
Miscellaneous	2	9	1	17	3	9	8
Total	315	6	3	11	2130	0	4

(b) Waste Products Plant Sales:

	T.	C.	Q.	lbs.		£	s.	d.
Fish Guano	51	2	—	7	...	1201	11	0
Concentrated Kitchen Waste	62	17	3	—	...	258	19	1
Shrimp Meal	8	2	2	—	...	162	10	0
Bones	3	15	2	—	...	19	16	9
Oyster Shell	4	17	2	—	...	7	7	0
Total	130	15	1	7	...	1650	3	10
Totals of (a) and (b) ...	446	2	—	18	...	3780	4	2

House and Trade Refuse Collection:

	T.	C.	Q.
House and Trade Refuse	11266	10	—
Fish and Other Offal	293	19	3
Raw Kitchen Waste	81	16	1
	11642	6	—

Gully Cleansing:

Number of gullies cleansed 4840

SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICES

947 children were medically examined in the schools at routine inspections. The number of parents who attended these examinations was 736.

The comments that I made last year on the admirable interest shown by Morecambe and Heysham parents in the welfare of their children are again justified. Thanks to this interest it can be said that the children of the borough form a healthy and happy community, and I do not think that a higher average standard of parental care could be found anywhere in the country.

It is difficult to reconcile the destructiveness and hooliganism that expresses itself in the smashing of public property, and that is laid at the door of the youth of the borough, with the children and their parents seen in the schools and clinics. Yet the hooliganism is a fact. I can only believe that it is a very small proportion of the youth that behaves in this manner, and that this proportion is to be found amongst adolescents rather than amongst the younger children. Perhaps, also, it is possible, that in impressing the lessons that youth must learn we have too completely forgotten King Solomon's advice.

In addition to the children seen in the schools there were 2,963 children seen at minor ailments clinics, 316 seen at the

ophthalmic clinics, 148 at the ear, nose and throat clinics, and 46 at the orthopaedic clinics.

In the following tables are the main defects found during the year:—

TABLE II

A.—Return of Defects found by Medical Inspection during the Year in Schools and in School Clinics.

No. of Pupils examined		Periodic Inspections 914		Special Inspections 765	
		Number of Defects		Number of Defects	
Disease or Defect		Requiring Treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment	Requiring Treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment
Skin		—	—	85	—
Eyes	Vision	27	—	35	—
	Squint	5	—	7	—
	Other	—	—	43	—
Ears	Hearing	1	—	—	—
	Otitis Media	4	—	8	—
	Other	1	—	33	—
Nose or Throat		41	—	50	—
Speech		—	—	—	—
Cervical Glands		—	—	7	—
Heart and Circulation		—	5	—	2
Lungs		1	2	1	1
Develop-mental	Hernia	—	—	—	—
	Other	—	—	—	—
Orthopaedic	Posture	1	2	—	—
	Flat-foot	11	7	—	—
	Other	15	—	7	—
Nervous System	Epilepsy	—	—	—	—
	Other	—	—	—	—
Psycho logical	Development	—	—	—	—
	Stability	—	—	—	—
Other		—	—	370	—
TOTAL		107	16	646	3

B.—Classification of the General Condition of Pupils Inspected during the Year in the Periodic Age Groups.

Age-Groups (All Schools)	Number of Pupils Inspected	A. (Good)		B. (Fair)		C. (Poor)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants	478	382	79.9	90	18.8	6	1.3
Second Age Group	436	346	79.2	80	18.3	10	2.2
Third Age Group	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	914	728	79.6	170	18.7	16	1.7

TABLE III
TREATMENT TABLES

Return of Defects known to have received treatment during the year, either at the Authority's Clinics or elsewhere.

Group I.—Minor Ailments (excluding uncleanliness).

(a) Disease or Defect:	Number of Defects Treated or under Treatment during the Year.
Skin—	
Ringworm—Scalp	
(i) X-ray Treatment	—
(ii) Other Treatment	—
Ringworm—Body	—
Scabies	14
Impetigo	36
Other Skin Diseases	35
Minor Eye Diseases	43
Minor Ear Defects	33
Miscellaneous (e.g., minor injuries, bruises sores, chilblains, etc.)	370
	<hr/>
Total	531
	<hr/>
(b) Total number of Attendances at Authority's Minor Ailments Clinics	2963

Group II.—Defective Vision and Squint

(Excluding Eye Diseases treated as Minor Ailments)

Number of Defects dealt with		Number of Pupils for whom Spectacles were :	
Errors of Refraction (including Squint)	Other Defect or Disease of the Eyes	Prescribed	Obtained
123	—	118	116

Group III.—Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.

NUMBER OF DEFECTS

Received Operative Treatment.		Received Other Forms of Treatment	Total Number Treated
For Adenoids and Chronic Tonsillitis	For Other Nose and Throat Conditions		
53	14	27	79

Group IV.—Orthopaedic and Postural Defects

- (a) Number treated as In-patients in Hospitals or Hospital Schools —
- (b) Number treated otherwise, e.g., in Clinics or Out-patient Departments 46

In reading the following table, of uncleanliness it is to be remembered that the 282 individual children found unclean are not 282 different children. There are families that offend repeatedly and whose children keep reappearing among the numbers.

TABLE V

Infestation with Vermin.

Work of the School Nurse or other Authorised Persons.

Total number of Visits paid to Schools	144
Average number of Visits per School made during the year	16
Total number of Examinations of Pupils in the Schools	10,827
Total number of Individual Pupils found to be infested	282

Dental Inspection and Treatment.

Two part time dentists were employed and 189 sessions were occupied in inspection and treatment.

During the year 2894 children were examined. Of these, 1334 were found to require treatment and 969 received treatment within the year. There were 1016 extractions, 908 fillings and 76 other operations.

